

RAJYA SABHA

List of Questions for ORAL ANSWERS

*to be asked at a sitting of the Rajya Sabha to be held on
Tuesday, the November 20, 2001/Kartika 29, 1923 (Saka)*

**(Ministries: Civil Aviation; Commerce and Industry; Culture; Finance;
Petroleum and Natural Gas; Water Resources)**

Total number of questions—20

Economic slump

†*21. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA:
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased
to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the present
economic slow-down is due to absence of
any concrete economic policy to alleviate
this situation;

(b) if so, what steps have been taken to
cope up/solve these problems;

(c) whether Government are being
pressed to increase the capital expenditure
to tide over the present situation; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Release of exploratory location in Contai by O.N.G.C.

*22. SHRI DIPANKAR
MUKHERJEE:
SHRIMATI CHANDRA
KALA PANDEY:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND
NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal for release of
exploratory location in Contai block was
considered by ONGC in REXB meeting on
29th August, 2000;

(b) whether the proposal was purported
to release one “B” category and one “A”
category locations with target depth of 3800
m/trap;

(c) whether as a follow up action 2D
seismic data of Contai area was reprocessed;

(d) if so, whether there is any time
schedule for taking a decision on release of
location; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Weak Cooperative banks

*23. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR
BIRLA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be
pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that
most of the Cooperative banks are weak;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have
ascertained the causes of sickness of these
Cooperative banks;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the norms of RBI are being
flouted by most of the Cooperative banks;
and

(f) if so, the reasons therefor?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Hijacking of Alliance airlines Mumbai-Delhi flight

*24. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU:
SHRI S. NIRAIKULATHAN:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had gone on record confirming the hijacking of an Alliance Air late night flight from Mumbai to Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it subsequently turned out to be a case of false alarm;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(e) the system which was in place at the time of the incident and the details thereof and the points at which this system was breached; and

(f) whether any accountability has been fixed?

Aircrashes of small aircrafts

*25. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of aircrashes/mishaps relating to the small aircrafts being operated by private companies during the last three years;

(b) in how many of the above-mentioned crashes/mishaps, the enquiry committees have been set up and whether any reports have been submitted by any of these committees; and

(c) the status of the implementation of recommendations of these reports and whether in any of these reports submitted by the committees, mishap/crash has been attributed to the inexperience/under-experience of pilots?

Unlicensed urban banks in Kerala

*26. SHRI A. VIJAYA RAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether RBI has received any complaint regarding the violation of norms by the 'unlicensed urban banks' started in Kerala recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total number of such banks started throughout the country, State-wise; and

(d) whether Government are contemplating any steps to control such 'unlicensed urban banks'?

Construction of mini-airport in Gulbarga

*27. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Airports Authority of India had certified the suitability of land acquired by the Karnataka Government for the construction of mini-airport in Gulbarga; and

(b) if so, whether Government have given its approval to Jet airlines for operating 32 seater flights from Gulbarga to Bangalore, Hyderabad, Hubli and Belgaum?

Helicopter services in North-Eastern Region

*28. SHRI PRAKANTA WARISA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of places in NER which are not connected by helicopter services;

(b) the number of places in NER which are connected by the above services;

(c) whether there is any proposal to start new helicopter services to the places where no air/helicopter services are available; and

(d) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

Devaluation of rupee against US dollar

†*29. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN': Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the value of Indian rupee had declined *vis-a-vis* US dollar during the last few months;

(b) if so, the maximum and minimum value of the 'Rupee' *vis-a-vis* dollar during the month of September;

(c) to what extent the value of dollar was more than rupee during January, 2001; and

(d) the reasons for consistent devaluation of rupee during the last few years in the country?

Impact of Expenditure Reforms Commission

*30. SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of recommendations of the Expenditure Reforms Commission received so far which has been implemented; and

(b) what are the details of the impact of the implementation of these recommendations on the overall expenditure trend?

Agency for procurement of natural rubber

*31. SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:
SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the agency fixed to purchase natural rubber at the Bench Mark price rates;

(b) by when such purchase was started and how much rubber has been purchased so far;

(c) whether Government have decided not to accept rubber variety lower than the RSS-5 grade, which forms 40 per cent of the sheet rubber; and

(d) whether Government have received any representation to review this decision and to accept rubber grade lower than the RSS-5 grade?

Impact of recent terrorist strikes on US funding

*32. SHRI RUMANDLA RAMA-CHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the terrorist strikes in America have an adverse effect on the US funding of Indian programmes;

(b) if so, whether many of these programmes which are phased up to 2002 have been greatly affected;

(c) the total projects that were being undertaken jointly by US;

(d) to what extent they have been affected; and

(e) the steps being taken by Government in this regard?

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

Price rise and inflation

*33. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been abnormal price rise and inflation during the last three months which has adversely affected the poor;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what measures Government have taken to contain inflation and price rise?

Privatisation of UTI

*34. SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN:
SHRI NAGENDRA NATH
OJHA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal to privatise the Unit Trust of India (UTI); and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken in this regard?

Production of depositors' interests in Krushi Bank of Andhra Pradesh

*35. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Andhra Pradesh has refused to stand guarantee for funds pumped in by bankers in revival of Krushi Bank; and

(b) if so, the manner in which investors will be compensated or their interests watched?

Flying of aircrafts over strategic Installations and historic structures

*36. SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA NAHATA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of attacks of bomber aircrafts in U.S., Government have issued fresh guidelines to prohibit flying of aircraft over strategic installations and historic structures in the form of aviation as a weapon for terrorist activity; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard?

Impact of terrorists attack in US on aviation industry

*37. SHRI K.M. KHAN:
SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR
BIRLA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) what, according to the assessment made by Government, is the overall impact of the recent terrorists attack on the U.S. cities on the aviation industry stating the estimated loss suffered and on the process of disinvestment of Air India; and

(b) what steps are being taken to improve the situation and also for the safety of the passengers going to and coming from abroad?

Desilting of major rivers in Orissa

*38. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have prepared a national action plan for desilting of all the major rivers in the country especially Mahanadi, Brahmani, Vaitarni rivers in Orissa;

(b) if so, the details thereof;
 (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
 (d) the steps taken by Government for regular desilting of all the major rivers in order to check frequent floods?

Sale of fake stamp papers

†*39. SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ:
 Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the trade of selling fake stamp papers is on the rise in various parts of the country;

(b) if so, the number of such cases which have come to light during the last three months;

(c) whether Government have taken any steps so far to check it; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Small savings

†*40. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have discouraged the capital formation by reducing the interest rate on small savings;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to safeguard the interest of the general public and encourage the small savings?

NEW DELHI;
The 13th November, 2001
Kartika 22, 1923 (Saka)

R.C. TRIPATHI,
Secretary-General.

†Original notice of the question received in Hindi.

I N D E X
(Ministry-wise)

Civil Aviation	: 24, 25, 27, 28, 36, 37,
Commerce and Industry	: 31,
Culture	: —
Finance	: 21, 23, 26, 29, 30, 32, 33, 34, 35, 39, 40,
Petroleum and Natural Gas	: 22,
Water Resources	: 38.